THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) There is no representation of Parliament-arians in the Board of Central Agricultural University, Imphal. Even Jawaharlal Nehru University, a Central University, does not have Parliamentarians on its Board.

(b) The Central Agricultural University has been established by an Act of Parliament. The Act does not provide for inclusion of the Parliament's representative on the Board.

Organic Farming in Gujarat

3280. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of newsitem captioned "Gujarat farmer's organic farming began 40 years ago" appeared in The Hindustan Times, on 16th June, 2000;

(b) whether the farmer has managed to get record-breaking profits of about 400 per cent without using fertilizers and pesticides in his "Kalpavrukhsa" farm;

(c) if so, whether Government would send a team of agriculture scientists to sincerely study this method of farming and propagate them through media to aware the farmers so that they can stop using any kind of chemicals and fertilizers; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) to (d) It has been reported in The Hindustan Times dated 16.6.2000 that one Shri Bhaskar Hiraji Save has been practicing only organic farming for the last over 40 years. He is not using any fertilizers, insecticides, weedicides and does not resort to tilling of the land. He uses plant leaves and organic wastes as source of plant nutrients, encourages the growth of earth worms for tilling the soil and natural insects and birds for killing the crop pests. As per the information from State Government, good levels of crop yields are obtained at this farm. However, the information about levels of profitability is not indicated. The State Government recommends the use of fertilizers as per the soil test based recommendations and also encourages the farmers for use of compost and biofertilisers. As per the long term fertilizer use trials conducted by the Indian Council of Agriculture Research, balanced

and integrated use of both organic and in-organic fertilizers would sustain crop yields at high level and not the use of organic sources alone. The Ministry would, however, send a team of experts to study the experience of Shri Save in details.

Cow Calves for slaughter

3281. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that former DDG(AS) ICAR made public statements that 30 million cow calves should be produced for meat;

(b) whether it violates article 48 of Constitution of India and decisions of Supreme Court;

(c) whether Ahimsa Research Foundation has protested against this proposal; and

(d) what action was taken or proposed to be taken against the concerned officer and Government's policy be specified in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No proposal on production of cow calves for meat has been received.

(d) Does not arise.

Market Intervention Scheme for Citrus Fruits

3282. SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some proposals regarding Market Intervention Scheme for citurs fruits for the year 1996-97 have been received from Government of Himachal Pradesh for approval;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Market Intervention Scheme for Kinnow, Malta, Santra and Galgal have been implemented in Himachal Pradesh in 1996-97 after approval of Government on 50:50 sharing basis;

(c) if so, whether the share of Government is still lying pending for approval since June, 1997; and